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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/661,223	09/13/2000	Futoshi Kaibuki	450100-02710	7775
20999	7590	01/29/2004	EXAMINER	
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG 745 FIFTH AVENUE- 10TH FL. NEW YORK, NY 10151			HUYNH, KIM T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2112	102

DATE MAILED: 01/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/661,223

Applicant(s)

KAIBUKI, FUTOSHI

Examiner

Kim T. Huynh

Art Unit

2189

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,6,9-13,15-19,21,24-26,28 and 30-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,6,9-13,15-19,21,24-26,28 and 30-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 September 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 3, 6, 9-13, 15-19, 21, 24-26, 28, 30-32 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ludtke et al. (Pub. No US 20030210252)

As per claims 1, 19, Ludtke discloses an electronic apparatus for processing audio/video data, comprising:

- A data processing subunit, included within said electronic apparatus, for receiving and processing audio/video input data; [0039], [0015]
- A functional block, included within said data processing subunit, operative as terminating functional block to terminate the data processed by said data processing subunit; [0018]
- A memory for storing information pertaining to said data processing subunit and said functional block, wherein the information stored in said memory is accessible by an external electronic apparatus connected to said electronic apparatus via a serial data bus; and [0014],[0018],[0039]

- Connection means for connecting said electronic apparatus and said external electronic apparatus via said serial data bus. [0014]

As per claims 3, 21, 28, Ludtke discloses wherein the information stored in said memory indicates that said functional block terminates data received by the data processing subunit.[0018]

As per claim 6, Ludtke discloses wherein said data processing subunit further comprises another functional block for performing said input data processing and supplying said processed data to said functional block operative as a terminating functional block.[0018]

As per claim 9, Ludtke discloses wherein said memory has a hierarchical structure.

As per claim 10, Ludtke discloses wherein said data is video data and said functional block is a video display means that terminates said video data by converting the processed data into a video signal and displaying video corresponding thereto. [0007-0009]

As per claim 11, Ludtke discloses wherein said video display means is a display. [0040]

As per claim 12, Ludtke discloses wherein said video display means is a printer.

As per claim 13, Ludtke discloses wherein said data is audio data and said functional block is an audio output means that terminates said audio data by converting it into sound corresponding thereto. [0007]

As per claims 15, 24, 30, 33, Ludtke discloses wherein said information pertaining to said functional block stored within said memory includes information concerning virtual plug information of said functional block. [0040]

As per claims 16, 25, 31, Ludtke discloses the electronic further comprising another functional block for processing said data and supplying said processed data to said functional block operative as a terminating functional block, and said memory further storing information concerning virtual plug information of said another functional block, wherein all of said virtual plug information is accessible by an external apparatus connected to said electronic apparatus via said serial data bus. [0040]

As per claim 17, Ludtke discloses wherein said serial data bus performs data communication in accordance with the IEEE-1394 standard. [0040]

As per claim 18, Ludtke discloses wherein said electronic apparatus is a digital television receiver. [0040]

As per claims 26, 32, Ludtke discloses a system having a plurality of electronic apparatuses connected via a serial data bus to enable transmission of data among said apparatuses, comprising:

- A data transmitting apparatus for transmitting audio/video data over said serial data bus; [0039], [0018]
- A data receiving apparatus for receiving the audio/video data transmitted by said serial data transmitting apparatus over said data bus; [0018]

Wherein said data receiving apparatus comprises:

- A data processing subunit, included within said receiving apparatus, for processing said received audio/video data; [0039]
- A functional block, included within said data processing subunit, operative as a terminating functional block to terminate the data processed by said data processing subunit; and [0018]
- A memory for storing information pertaining to said data processing subunit and said functional block, wherein the information stored in said memory is accessible by an external electronic apparatus connected to said electronic apparatus via said serial data bus. [0039], [0014], [0018]

Response to Amendment

3. Applicant's amendment filed on 11/12/03 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. *Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim Huynh whose telephone number is (703)305-5384 or via e-mail addressed to [kim.huynh3@uspto.gov]. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM- 6:30PM.*

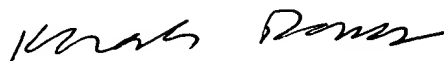
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (703) 305-4815 or via e-mail addressed to [mark.rinehart@uspto.gov]. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Art Unit: 2112

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)306-5631.

Kim Huynh

Jan. 25, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Khanh Dang', written in a cursive style.

Khanh Dang
Primary Examiner